

SOME FEMINIST PROPAGANDA IN WAR FICTION—AMBITIONS OF JAPAN IN THE EAST

HOW A REVOLT OF GERMAN WOMEN ENDED THE WAR

Gertrude Atherton Describes the Process in a Prophetic Novel—May Sinclair's Story of an English Family

WE WERE talking about the possibility of revolution in Germany. Doctor McFabre was confident that it would come, but Owen was doubtful.

"Gertrude Atherton, because the military power has sent their husbands and sons and brothers to the front and allowed them to be killed and has permitted the little children to be starved, so out of revenge for the loss of their men the women decide to destroy the power of the men to prolong the war."

"What a fine example of feminine logic!" exclaimed Owen. "It doesn't seem to be very logical."

"There is a remote possibility of a German revolt of a kind least expected," said I.

"Any kind of a revolt would be welcome," remarked the "crazyman." "I was delighted when I read of the workmen striking by the hundred thousand. It must mean revolution."

"Another kind of a revolution may come when you least expect it," said I. "Gertrude Atherton, out of her intimate knowledge of conditions in Germany, has written what her publishers call a prophetic novel, in which she describes how the war was ended by the rising of the German women."

"The war has brought suffering enough to them to justify them in doing any desperate thing," said Owen. "But Mrs. Atherton regards the suffering brought about by war as only the culmination of outrages against which the women have been inwardly rebelling for a generation. She has lived in Germany for years and she has had intimate conversations with the women of all classes. Before the war she found young women of good family so hostile to the men that they decided never to marry. They had seen their fathers acting the tyrant over their mothers and had decided that they would never submit to such treatment. Their mothers were as rebellious as the daughters, but they said less about it. The German man regards the woman as an inferior sort of creature, who has no rights. According to Mrs. Atherton, the suffering that has been brought about by the war is regarded by the women as a result of the disregard by the men of their duty to protect their women. If the men win, the women will suffer more in the future than they have suffered in the past. So she creates a character in the person of a brilliant young woman of the nobility, who has won a position of leadership in her country through her writings under an assumed name, and makes her the leader in a revolt. The women are organized, and on a given day they blow up every munition factory, de-

women in such contempt that they will not take the book seriously?"

"Do you take it seriously?" Doctor McFabre wanted to know. "At present it is to be regarded as a feminist document, without relation to practical affairs," said I, "but as I am not a seer I cannot tell whether it is really prophetic or not."

"Well, I have not much use for women novelists, anyway," remarked Owen.

"Then you would not care for May Sinclair's war story," said I.

"Not so much as for a war story by Locke or Wells," said he, "I should really like to read a war novel by Ernest Poole. I think it would be great."

"It would certainly be greater than Miss Sinclair's novel," said I. "This does not mean that she has not written a good story, or that she belongs in the Gibberian category. You remember what he said. It runs something like this: 'There's the lady novelist! I've got her on my list! I'm sure she won't be missed.'"

"That expresses my sentiments perfectly," said Owen.

"Miss Sinclair is really a good novelist," I insisted. "But it must be admitted that her new novel is a woman story; that is, it is a story of women and the war. There are men in it, but the point of view all the time is that of a woman. There is no hero and no heroine, in the ordinary meaning of the book in the history of a family and its friends and the way the war affected them. It begins twenty years before the war started, when the children in the family were young. One of them was still a baby. She has written a delightful description of the domestic life of a prosperous London business man. The remarks and conduct of the little children are charming. The mother is a delightful woman and the father is a man whom one can respect. She follows the growth of the children, tells of their education and the evolution of their characters and brings them to their maturity, when the daughter becomes a suffragist and one of the sons with a poetic gift attaches himself to the young literary set, trying to do new things in verse. Then she shows how the war transforms the suffragists overnight into patriots and how the sons and their friends go to the front and are killed. It is a tragic tale, but Miss Sinclair has succeeded in producing the impression that the bereaved parents do not begrudge the loss of their children, and that the young women whose lovers have been killed do not mourn unduly because of the sacrifice which they have been called upon to make. It is the story of a nation willing to pay the utmost price in order that the world might continue to be worth living in. It does not impress me as a remarkably great novel; but it is a good one, worth reading."

THE WHITE MORNING. A Novel of the Power of the German Women in War. By Gertrude Atherton. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co. The TREE OF HEAVEN. By May Sinclair. New York: The Macmillan Company. \$1.50.



GERTRUDE ATHERTON

JAPAN SEEKS A PLACE IN THE SUN

Her Ambitions Clearly Set Forth by a Man Who Knows What They Are

When this war is over the ambitions of Japan are likely to occupy the attention of the forward-looking statesmen of the world for many years. That island empire has a population larger than it can well accommodate at home, and it is increasing at the rate of 400,000 a year, not by immigration, but by the natural processes. There are 256 Japanese for every square mile of territory in Japan proper. This is a little more than one person for every two acres of land. Germany has 210 persons for every square mile, and to find room for its surplus it has gone to war against the world.

It is consequently of the first importance that we understand what the Japanese are thinking and what they are hoping for. There is no better way to get this information than by reading K. K. Kawakami's latest book, "Japan in World Politics." Mr. Kawakami is a Japanese progressive, who has lived in America for several years, and has kept in touch with his native country. He writes that Japan is not hostile to America and will not be so long as she is treated fairly. There are three trouble spots, however, which are unsettled. One is the question of Japanese immigration to the United States, the second is the question of the United States' policy toward the Japanese, and the third is the relation of America to Japanese interests in China. Since the beginning of the war, America has made an agreement with Japan in which the peculiar interests of the Japanese in China are recognized. This eases the tension on the Chinese question, but does not settle it completely. Mr. Kawakami does not think his country would go to war with us on the immigration question, for the chances of success would be remote. As to the legislation hostile to the Japanese, he writes significantly:

"I think it would be the height of folly on the part of Japan to go to war with such a nation as ours, which has such a developed and so well organized a navy, and which has such a powerful and so well organized an army. It is not in our interest to consider every question in the light of material gain or loss. Fortunately, for us, we are not in a position to consider such a thing as a national honor to be defended regardless of cost."

The author discusses the expatriation of the Japanese, the open door in China and in Korea, Japanese "designs" upon Mexico, the relations of Japan with Germany and the United States, the Russo-Japanese entente upon American policy. The whole book is a subtle plea for a place in the sun for Japan. It undoubtedly expresses the opinion of a large body of Japanese. The sooner it is read and digested in America the sooner shall we be in possession of the knowledge without which no statesman's Asiatic policy can be formulated in Washington.

JAPAN IN WORLD POLITICS. By K. K. Kawakami, author of "American-Japanese Relations." New York: The Macmillan Company. \$1.50.

Dr. Cabot on Doctoring

In spite of the fact that the attendance at medical schools is decreasing there will continue to be a place for the physician for many generations to come. He may practice medicine in the future in a different way from that followed by his grandfather, but he will practice medicine. The tendencies of modern medicine are admirably set forth by Dr. Richard C. Cabot in "Training and Rewards of the Physician," the latest volume to appear in Lippincott's Training Series.

THE MISTERY OF THE HARTY ARROYO. By Anna Katherine Green. With illustrations by H. B. Halliday. New York: Doubleday, Mead & Co. \$1.50.

The Problem of Austria-Hungary

Revolt among the non-German races in Austria-Hungary is looked for by some of the students of the war as a necessary preliminary to an early peace. The German plans include the subordination of the Austro-Hungarian Empire to Prussia. The empire is already a vassal of Prussia and can act only as Prussia gives the word. Those who wish to understand the situation in Austria-Hungary will do well to read Wolf von Scherbrand's latest book on the political situation. It has explained the complications arising from the mixture of the races and has shown the elements of disunion. They have been working for many years. Hungary has separatist ambitions. The German population in the empire is only about a third of the total population. The non-Germans are hostile to their masters, the Germans. All these facts are set forth by Mr. von Scherbrand, and set forth, too, with impartiality. But when he solves the question of Austro-Hungarian disintegration more or less completely and would benefit the average reader, he is disappointed. When the non-Germans with national ambitions of their own realize it the revolt for which many persons have been looking will come.

Who Shot the Arrow?

A group of business men at lunch were discussing books, when one of them remarked that he liked to read light novels with a complicated plot. They took his mind off his work. A second one said that he was in the middle of reading "The Arrow" by H. B. Halliday. "It's a great story," he remarked. And he was right. It is a great story of its kind. It does not mean that it is an analytical study of social conditions or of the processes of the mind. It is merely a story of plot and the interest of the reader in unraveling is sustained till the end. When it is finished it would be impossible to hire a man to read it again, for when the mystery is explained the book becomes like stale beer. As it is a detective story, there must be a crime. Miss Green, on to her actual name, Mrs. Rohlf, has chosen for her the killing of a young girl in an art gallery in New York by an arrow taken from a collection in the room in which she was murdered. Who killed her and what the motive was are all to be discovered. Those familiar with this novelist's methods know what they think they are in for. The plot is intricate and they will not be disappointed. They will find romance and tragedy inextricably mixed, and they will meet Detective Grey, who has figured in other stories by the same author.

THE MISTERY OF THE HARTY ARROYO. By Anna Katherine Green. With illustrations by H. B. Halliday. New York: Doubleday, Mead & Co. \$1.50.

Outdoor Verse

In these days of neuritic pests trying to do something different merely for the sake of being different—they think they are being "original"—it is refreshing to run across a volume of sane, wholesome verse such as Douglas Malloch has produced. His "Tote-Road and Trail" is worth all the imagist poetry that has been written. The verse that it contains is simple, direct and human. It deals chiefly with the lumberjacks and their life, but Mr. Malloch has the wit to know that these men are creatures with like passions with the rest of us. He does not spoil good paper by sneering over it verses about a hark in Harlem as an egotistic adolescent found her, but he tells us of the many passions of real men. Such a poem as Malloch's "Interpreters"—one of several not dealing with the lumber men—is worth a volume of the other kind of stuff. The first stanza runs like this:

There are some thoughts too sad to put in words, There are some joys too deep for accents, I think that is why God makes the birds, I think that is why.

If life in the open would cure the neurotics of their ailments, let us hope that they may be sentenced to a winter in a lumber camp.

TOTE-ROAD AND TRAIL. Malloch of the lumbermen. In full color by Oliver Kemp. Philadelphia: Dobbie, Merrill Company. \$1.25.

E. S. Martin on the War

No better editorial articles are printed in America than those written by Edward S. Martin for Life. Mr. Martin has selected from those he wrote during the first three years of the war enough to fill a volume. They all deal with the war or with its effect on American politics. They are all sane and logical, and even when one disagrees with them one respects the integrity of the man who writes them. There will be many formal histories written telling of the events of the three years covered by this volume, but there will be none which will reveal more clearly the spirit of the nation in that trying period.

THE HISTORY OF A NATION. The War and How We Got Into It. By Edward S. Martin. Garden City: Doubleday, Mead & Co. \$1.50.

CURRENT MAGAZINES

Winston Churchill, who went over to France for Serbia's Magazine in the number, contributes his first article to the magazine, entitled "The War in the West." He writes of the "The War in the West," which is a volume of the magazine, "The Runaway Woman," is continued and there is a charming little story, "Jim and the Giant," by H. W. Wells, besides other stories and poems. The

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By James Lane Allen

THE HISTORY OF A NATION. The War and How We Got Into It. By Edward S. Martin. Garden City: Doubleday, Mead & Co. \$1.50.

Evening Public Ledger Photoplay Calendar

Table with columns for days of the week (Monday to Saturday) and various theaters (Alhambra, Apollo, Arcadia, Belmont, Bluebird, Broadway, Cedar, Coliseum, Colonial, Empress, Eureka, Family, Fairmount, Frankford, 56th Street, Great North, Imperial, Jefferson, Jumbo, Knickerbocker, Leader, Liberty, Locust, Market St., Model, Nixon, Palace, Park, Princess, Regent, Rialto, Ridge Ave., Rivoli, Ruby, Savoy, Stanley, Strand, Tioga, Victoria). Each cell contains the name of the play and the actor.

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER By James Lane Allen

THE HISTORY OF A NATION. The War and How We Got Into It. By Edward S. Martin. Garden City: Doubleday, Mead & Co. \$1.50.

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Just Out! A Startling Novel! Just Out! GERTRUDE ATHERTON'S exciting story of the German Revolution that may come

THE WHITE MORNING

Will German Women Stop the War? Mrs. Atherton answers in her astonishing new novel. Based on a startling idea, with intense love interest, and told as only Gertrude Atherton could tell it—it's a story that everyone thinking about the War will want to read. "The fact that this book seeks to express a great truth must not be allowed to swamp the truth that the story itself is enthralling. It holds a fierce, pitiless, but it is crowded with living characters, and moves before the background. . . . A book that will be read for years to come. It is alive with the best of the best of this time."—N. Y. Times.

Advertisement for Jacobs for Books Stationery and Engraving, 1628 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. Includes an illustration of a man in a military uniform.

Advertisement for May Sinclair's New Novel, 'The Tree of Heaven', published by The Macmillan Company.

Advertisement for 'The Kentucky Warbler' by James Lane Allen, published by The Macmillan Company.

Advertisement for 'The Book of Love' by Prof. Senator P. Mantegazza, published by The New Library, Inc.

Advertisement for 'Carolyn of the Corners' by Ruth Belmore Endicott, published by Dodd, Mead and Company.

Advertisement for Gertrude Atherton's 'The White Morning', published by J. B. Lippincott Company.